

Category:ISO_Codelists

Codelists are shared vocabularies used to ensure consistency across instances of ISO metadata. Each codelist has two XML attributes:

- codeList gives the location and name of the codelist and
- codeListValue gives the value which is also given as the content of the codelist element.

ISO Codelists are written in XML as:

```
<role>
<codeListName
  codeList="Location#CodeListIdentifier"
  codeListValue="CodeListValue">
  CodeListValue
</codeListName>
</role>
```

Example:

```
<gmd:dateType>
<gmd:CI_DateTypeCode
  codeList="http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/metadata/published/xsd/schema/resources/Codelist/gmxCodelists
  codeListValue="publication">
  publication
</gmd:CI_DateTypeCode>
</gmd:dateType>
```

The two most commonly used codeLists are the CI RoleCode for roles of people and organizations and MD ScopeCode for describing the scope of metadata elements.

The codelists from the standard are hosted by ISO at <http://www.isotc211.org/2005/resources/Codelist/gmxCodelists.xml>.

Organizations can also host customized lists if they are necessary. For example, the NGDC codelist which supports 19115-2 codes and extensions that will be added in ISO revision is at <http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/metadata/published/xsd/schema/resources/Codelist/gmxCodelists.xml>